EARLIEST TEDPAGE NOTES, 1995

WHO I AM
Bio
Bibliography
Heroes
MY PE
Presen
WORL
My Ideas
THE P
I BUIL
DISAG
The Pu

Ted's Home

MY BODY OF WORK
Philosophy
General Schematics
Project Xanadu
of Software & Interaction
DIGITAL MEDIA
Transparallel Media
The Social Sciences
Biostatus, etc.
IRV: a Problem
THE STORY
MY HISTORY
MY CONVERGENCE
THE AGENDA
THE PLAN STALLED
THEY DON'T GET IT
TRY AND STOP ME

TRANSCLUSION : THE MIRE

General Ops
Transmedia

Doctrine Servers

POLITICAL ISSUES

Who I Am

Theory of Software & Interaction

Project Xanadu

General Schematics

DIGITAL MEDIA: The Transparallel Convergence

Transcopyright

HT
HM

Network Hypermedia Publishing

Transparallel Media

MY PARALLEL UNIVERSE

The Orson Thing

IDEAS & INTELLECT

DESIGN

VIRTUALITY

Versus REALITY

CONCEPTUAL STRUCTURE

FEEL

Cinema of the Mind

METAPHORS

CONSTRUCT LOGIC

ACCESS STRUCTURE

EVERYBODY WANTS TO DIRECT

Mental Design

Default Selection

CURRENT STATES OF SOFTWARE DESIGN: LOUSY

Current POLITICAL COMPROMISE of Software Design

General Schematics

SCHEMATICS

DESCRIPTION

GOODNESS OF FIT

SCHEMATICS

SUMMARIES OF CASES

Mapping

THEMATICS

READING CONCEPT SPECIFICATION

CLASSICAL LOGIC USELESS

"Very Logical" -- the popular sense of "logic"

INTERTWINGULARITY?

FLUMATICS

Where are the best DIVIDING-POINTS?

Gen.Strategics

Playing-Field

WHO I AM
Present Involvements
DISAGREEMENT
My Ideas
Theory of Software & Interactic
Project Xanadu
General Schematics
DIGITAL MEDIA
Transparallel Media
The Future
The Social Sciences

Ted's Home Page

THE AGENDA
TRY AND STOP ME
WORLD ENOUGH
THE STORY
THE PLAN STALLED
THEY DON'T GET IT

MY HISTORY
MY PERSONAL BITTERNESS
MY BODY OF WORK
IRV: a Problem

Who I Am

DISAGREEMENT

Theory of Software & Interaction

MY PARALLEL UNIVERSE

The Orson Thing

IDEAS & INTELLECT

DESIGN

VIRTUALITY

Versus REALITY

CONCEPTUAL STRUCTURE

FEEL

Cinema of the Mind

The G'ZATION OF MOVIES

History INVENTION OF THE DIRECTOR

METAPHORS

CONSTRUCT LOGIC

CONCEPT DESIGN (simple, inductive)

ACCESS STRUCTURE

EVERYBODY WANTS TO DIRECT

Menu Design

Default Selection

CURRENT STATES OF SOFTWARE DESIGN: LOUSY

Current POLITICAL COMPROMISE of Software Design

Project Xanadu

General Schematics

POLITICAL ISSUES

DIGITAL MEDIA: The Transparallel Convergence

Transcopyright

HT

HM

Network Hypermedia Publishing

Transparallel Media

General Schematics

SCHEMATICS

DESCRIPTION

GOODNESS OF FIT

SCHEMATICS

SUMMARIES OF CASES

Mapping

THEMATICS

READING

CONCEPT

SPECIFICATIO

CLASSICAL LOGIC

USELESS

"Very Logical" — the popular sense of 'logic'

INTERTWINGULARITY?

FLUMATICS

Where are the best DIVIDING-POINTS?

Gen. Strategics

Schelling

Playing-Field

Communicatio

Strategic Opacity

Ted's Home Page

WHO I AM
Present Involvements
DISAGREEMENT
My Ideas
Theory of Software & Interaction
Project Xanadu
General Schematics
DIGITAL MEDIA
Transparallel Media
The Future

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95.12.08

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Who I Am | DISAGREEMENT | Theory of Software & Interaction | Project Xanadu | General Schematics | DIGITAL MEDIA

MY PARALLEL UNIVERSE | The Orson Thing | IDEAS

General Schematics
Schematics
Systematics
Thematics
Pluratics
Gen.Strategics
Normatics
General Semantics
KOrzybski

Transparallel Media

SCHEMATICS
SEMIQUIVALENCE
SUMMARIES OF CASES
Mapping
≈specification

Gen Strategics
Schelling
Strategic Beings
Playing Fields
Communication
Strategy of Conflict
Strategic Opacity
Policy
Effects
Diplomacy
Foreign Policy
Social Physics
Models
Physics

THEMATICS
DESIGN

VIRTUALITY Versus REALITY
CONCEPTUAL STRUCTURE
FEEL

Cinema of the Mind

THE C'ZATION OF MOVIES
History INVENTION OF THE DIRECTOR
"METAPHORS"
CONSTRUCT LOGIC
CONCEPT DESIGN (simple movies)
ACCESS STRUCTURE
Menu Design
Default Selection
EVERYBODY WANTS TO DIRECT
CURRENT STATES OF SOFTWARE DESIGN: LOUSY
Current POLITICAL COMPROMISE of Software Design

SCHEMATICS
THE CONSTRUCTIVE LOGIC
THEMATICS
THE AGENT CONCEPT SPECIFICATION

BUMATICS
Continuity/Continuity
PREDICTABILITY
Multitude of Relations
SCHEMATICS
Difficulty of
THEMATICS

Schematics Specification
INDUCTION

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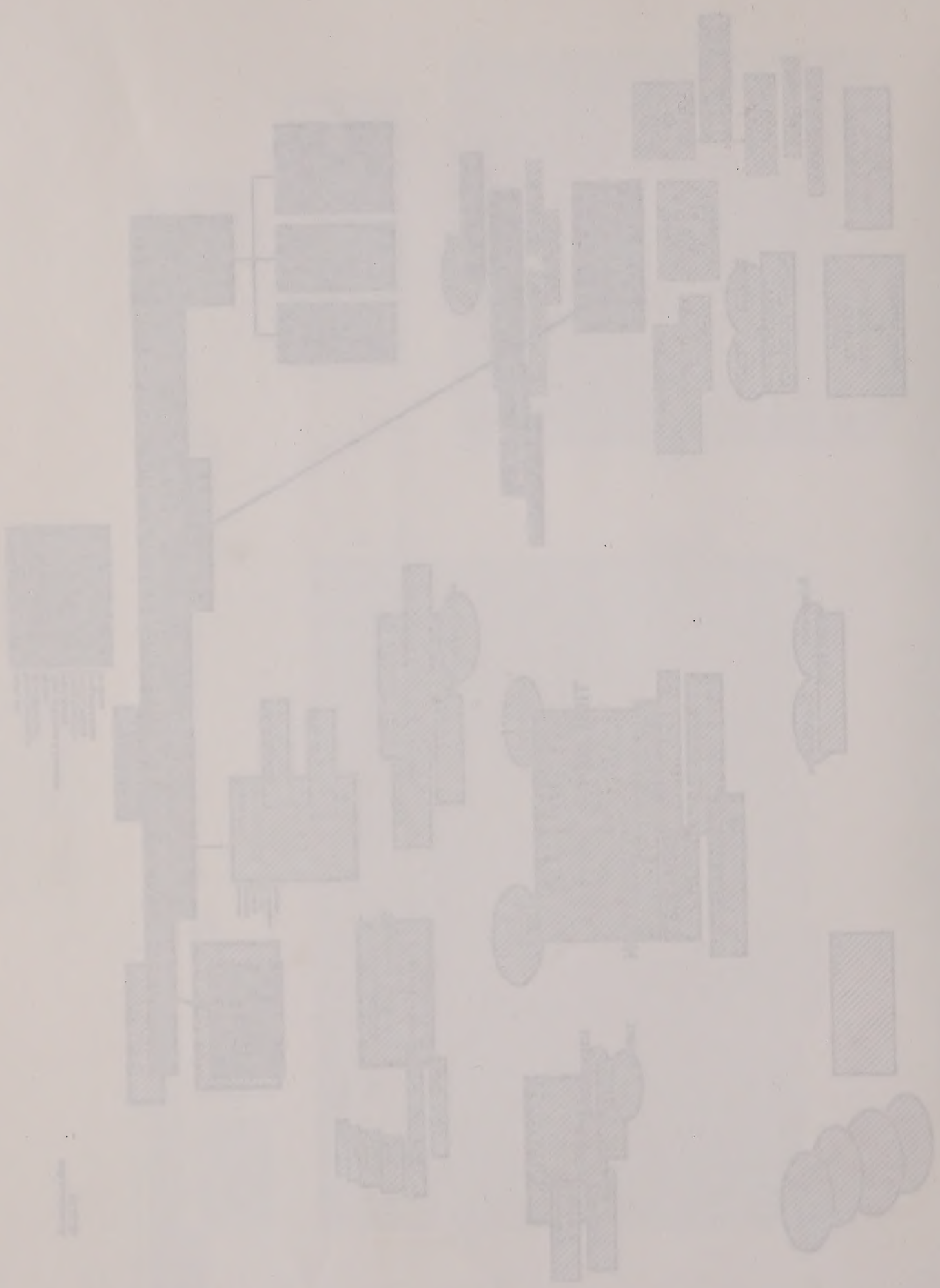

Ted's Home Page

WHO I AM
Present Involvement
DISAGREEMENT
My Ideas
Theory of Software & Interaction
Project Xanadu
General Schematics
DIGITAL MEDIA
Transparallel Media
The Future

Who I Am

DISAGREEMENT

IDEAS

Theory of Software & Interaction

Project Xanadu

General Schematics

General Schematics

Schematics
Systematics
Thematics
Pragmatics
Gen.Strategics
Normatics

DIGITAL MEDIA

Transparallel Media

Gen Stralegics

Strategic Beings

Schelling

Playing Fields

Communicatio

SCHEMATICS

DESIGN

VIRTUALITY Versus REALITY
CONCEPTUAL STRUCTURE
FEEL

Cinema of the Mind

CONSTRUCT LOGIC

FUNCTION OF THE DIRECTOR

ACCESS STRUCTURE

Menu Design

Default Selection

EVERYBODY WANTS TO DIRECT

CURRENT STATES OF SOFTWARE DESIGN: LOUSY

Current POLITICAL COMPROMISE of Software Design

THEMATICS

THREADING

CONCEPT

SPECIFICATION

THEMATICS

SCHEMATICS

PREDICABILITY

THEMATICS

Ted's Home Page

WHO I AM
DISAGREEMENT
Theory of Software
Project Xanadu
General Schematics
DIGITAL MEDIA
Transparallel Media

Who I Am | DISAGREEMENT | Theory of Software | Project Xanadu | General Schematics | DIGITAL MEDIA

IDEAS

DIGITAL MEDIA

General Schematics

Schematics
Systematics
Thematics
Pleonastics
Gen.Strategics
Normatics

Transparallel Media

Gen.Strategics
Strategic Beings
Schelling
Playing Fields
Communicatio

SCHEMATICS

THEMATICS

DESIGN

VIRTUALITY Versus REALITY
CONCEPTUAL STRUCTURE
FEEL

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Cinema of the Mind

THE G'ZATION OF MOVIES

History/INVENTION OF THE DIRECTOR

CONSTRUCT LOGIC

CONCEPT DESIGN (Single, indocvisol

FUNCTION OF THE DIRECTOR

ACCESS STRUCTURE

M666 Design

Default Selection

EVERYBODY WANTS TO DIRECT

CURRENT STATUS OF SOFTWARE DESIGN LOUSY

Current POLITICAL COMPROMISE of Software Design

THEMATICS

THREADING
CONCEPT
SPECIFICATION

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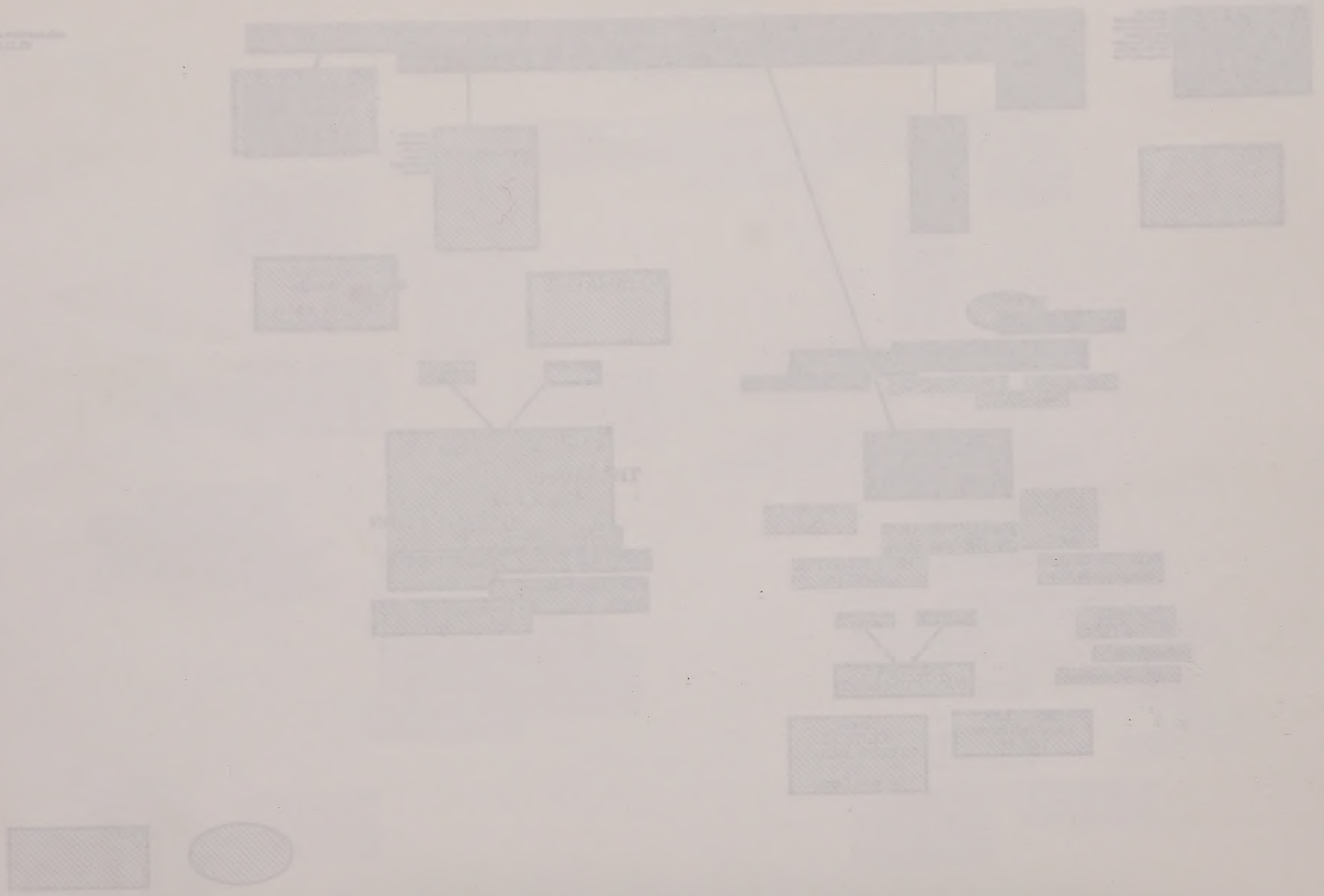


Ted's Home Page

WHO I AM
DISAGREEMENT
Theory of Software
Project Xanadu
General Schematics
DIGITAL MEDIA
Transparallel Media

Who I Am | DISAGREEMENT | Theory of Software | Project Xanadu | General Schematics | DIGITAL MEDIA | Transparallel Media

IDEAS

DIGITAL MEDIA

General Schematics

Schematics
Systematics
Thematics
Pragmatics
Gen.Strategics
Normatics

SCHEMATICS

Gen.Strategics

Cinema of the Mind

THE ORGANIZATION OF MOVIES

HISTORY/INVENTION OF THE DIRECTOR

CONSTRUCT LOGIC

FUNCTION OF THE DIRECTOR

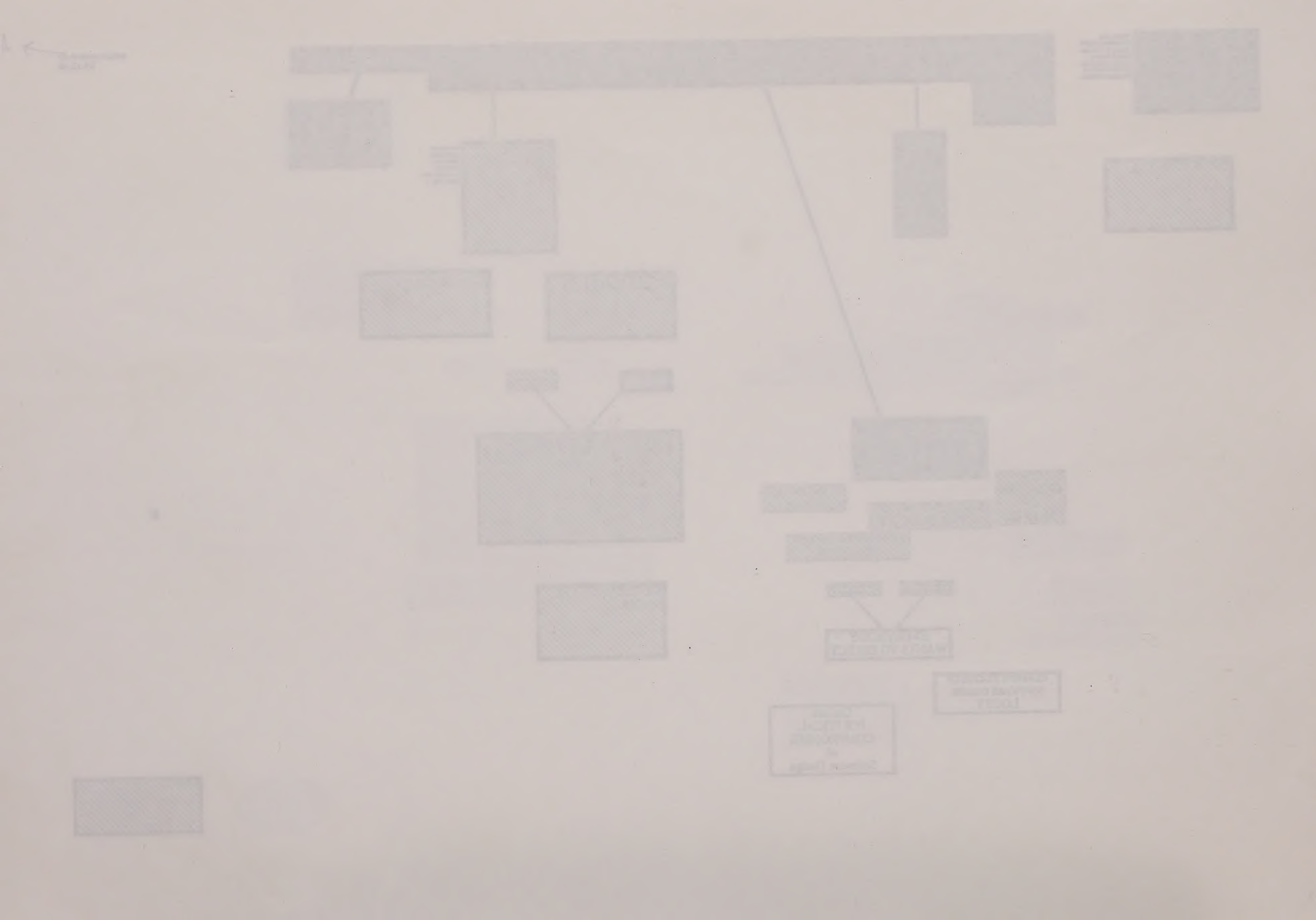
EVERYBODY WANTS TO DIRECT

CURRENT STATUS OF SOFTWARE DESIGN: LOUSY

Current POLITICAL COMPROMISE of Software Design

THEMATICS

TRANSPARALLEL MEDIA



Ted's Home Page

Who I Am

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Cinema of the Mind

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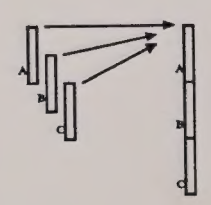

WHO I AM
DISAGREEMENTS
Theory of Software
Project Xanadu
General Schematics
DIGITAL MEDIA
Transmitted Media

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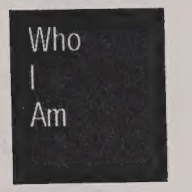

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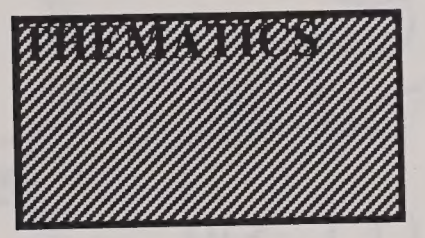

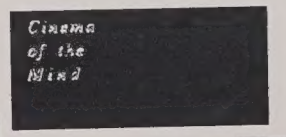

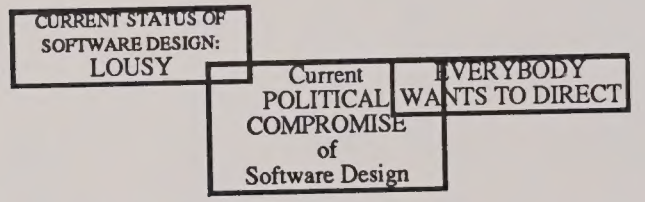

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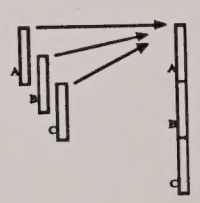

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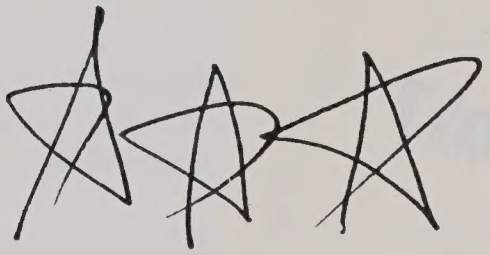

We

~~Mac~~

PC

OVERVIEW

ABOVE ALL.

OCT 2 3 1994

Web Page

Home Page

Home P.

TRANSITIONAL
WEB PAGE

SEP 1 2 1995

Home P.

Scene of WIRED

launch

massive attack.

(auto

were all

serious)

to meet the goal.

SEP 8 1995

Home Page

WIRED piece on

BOTCHED
GOVERNMENT
EXECUTION.

SEP 1 3 1995

homepage.d3

95.6.25

This is http://xanadu.net/tednelson.homepage. Last changed 25 June 1995. homepage.d3

Ted Nelson's Home Page

I have lived most of my life, from the age of eleven to the age of fifty, in great bitterness and anger. Only when I moved to California, and took the Stan Dale Workshops of the Human Awareness Institute, did some of this bitterness lift from my life.

I was about to put up some Web pages, finally, despite the ironies and pain of the matter, and was planning to make them humorous and interesting.

I am fifty-eight years old and have worked hard in the computer field for thirtyfive years. I thought that about now, people would start rediscovering my work and begin to recognize what they had missed before, the solutions to the problems they are finally ready to understand. I expected some vindication for all that work.

And now this. A scurrilous article in WIRED magazine which falsely and libelously misrepresents, insults, degrades and ridicules my colleagues, my career and the work that I have sacrificed everything for. Yes, I am calling Gary Wolf a Liar.

Workshops hell. It is as though I had never moved to California. I no longer feel like putting up Web pages, or answering email, or participating further in public conversation. The bitterness is on me again very heavily. It is all I can do to write these words.

This is http://xanadu.net/wolfenstein

wolfenstein.d2. Last modified 95.6.25.

wolfenstein.d2
95.6.25

Yes,

I Am Calling

Gary Wolf

A Liar

One must be very careful in calling someone a liar. This is a strong accusation.

It is particularly strong when dealing with journalists. Journalism is a holy calling: not well paid, not well respected, but holy. For a liar to take up this calling is blasphemous.

I wish to help Mr. Wolf find an occupation better suited to his standards of decency and honesty, such as loan sharking.

There are many ways to lie. One is by explicitly, provably false statements. The more exquisite, elegant method is by the confabulation of statements which, though they may be individually correct in one way or another, present a false impression to the reader. This takes more work and craft and cunning, and deeper dishonesty. This is Mr. Wolf's way.

Let us consider three threads of exposition in which Mr. Wolf is deliberately deceptive.

1. My allegedly incoherent gibberings.

2. My alleged ignorance and incompetence throughout my career, from 1960 to the present.

3. The alleged absurdity of the ideas I have promulgated, and what he implies that I said, as distinct from what he knows I really said.

In calling Wolf a liar, I am only stating that he knows better than what he is presenting. What he tell us, he tells us for reasons of his own and contrary to his own knowledge.

Yes,

I Am Calling

Gary Wolf

A List

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In calling Wolf a liar, I am only stating that he *knows* better than what he is presenting. What he tell us, he tells us for reasons of his own and contrary to his own knowledge.

This is http://xanadu.net/laststraw

andnowthis.d4. Last modified 95.6.25.

And now this.

If anyone had told me, "expect the most vicious piece you can possibly imagine," I could not have imagined anything one-tenth as vicious, malicious and savage as that presented by Mr. Gary Wolf.

I thought Louis Rossetto and Jane Metcalfe, the publishers of WIRED, were my friends. I admired their achievement with WIRED magazine. Now I see what their friendship was worth, and I see what their achievement was worth, if they publish crap like this.

And now this.

From ted@hyper.sec.or.jp Sun May 14 01:02:20 1995
From: ted@hyper.sec.or.jp
Date: Sun, 14 May 95 01:01:50 JST
To: mmiller@netcom.com
Subject: Re: Libel and such
Cc: ted@xanadu.net
Content-Length: 3137

Mark, thank you very much.

>First of all, regarding my opinion of you as a computer scientists,
>the folloing quote appears in Ed Regis' (author of "Great Mambo
>Chicken") latest book, Nano:
>
>   Nelson, ..., so one summer Miller went over to see him.
>   "At that time I kind of apprenticed myself to Ted. In almost all
>   ways, I learned vastly more about computers through my apprenticeship
>   to Ted, which was three summers altogether, than through four years of
>   being a computer science major in college." [after making clear
>   Miller was at Yale]
>
>I indeed said what appears between quotes, and I stand by it.

Thank you. That quote will be extremely helpful. Is the book out?
 Could you fax me an actual copy of the page and title/ISBN pages?
 This is extremely important.

The other comments I appreciate very much--

>Ted, you and I have had our disagrements, but I never questioned your
>intelligence, intuition, or general knowledge of computers. There are
>certainly areas where you're weak, as you know and as are we all, but
>they don't justify the line in the Wired piece. The Model-T enfilade
>was indeed a brilliant step forward, and not reproduced in the
>literature that I know of until around 1987.

Ah. I was not aware of it before 1994. Have you that citation?

However, this is in the form of a note to me, referring to matters which
 are still proprietary. Would you be able to phrase something up
 about my understanding of computer science in the sixties and seventies,
 based upon what you know of my plans in those days for--
zippered lists, 1965
ring-buffer parallel display buffers ("babbling streams") to support
 parallel textface, CA. 1967
Model T enfilade, 1970

Also, do you think I could approach Drexler for a testimonial?
(What I don't get is how friendly he was at his Foresight party,
 now doesn't respond to calls-- that's pretty onagain-offagain.)

As to the matter of libel:

Please keep this in confidence (though I give you the right blah blah).

 I have no plans of actually suing.
(There! Now the NSA knows it!)
But if I CHARGE libel, that's news, and I can back it up.
Libel is basically: damaging false charges.

If you look at your copy of "Curse of Xanadu" and scan for the word
 "ignorant," you will find the offending paragraph which I must counter.
 (Hard to move from my Mac.)

w/tr2

JUN 2 4 1995

w/tr

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JUN 2 5 1995

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[strux.it]

since 1960
v speedy
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CPG

Next Xrays
mist of cred

JUN 2 5 1995

Wolf Pages

Lee Gomes
> Shaking Twerp

JUN 2 5 1995

W.LYNCH
FIX

Those who don't
~~don't~~
some fund stage of hypertext
has been reached
by World Wide Web
simply don't get it yet

JUN 2 5 1995

→ shuddy

HYPERCRISY

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of "hypertext"

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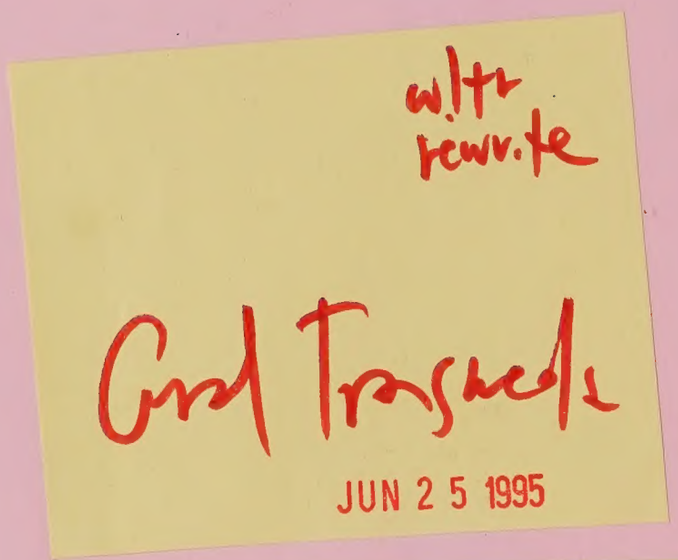
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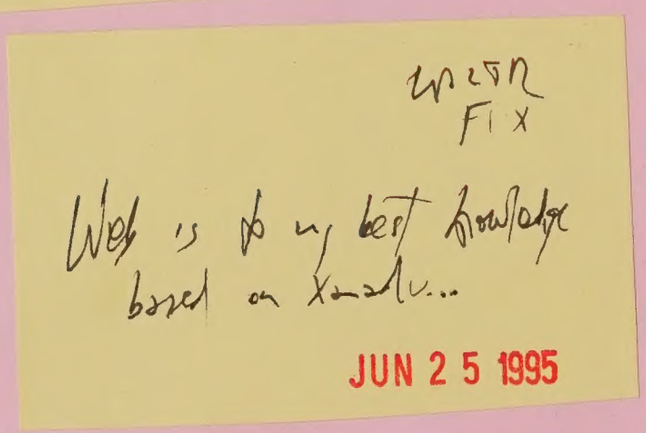
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WOLF
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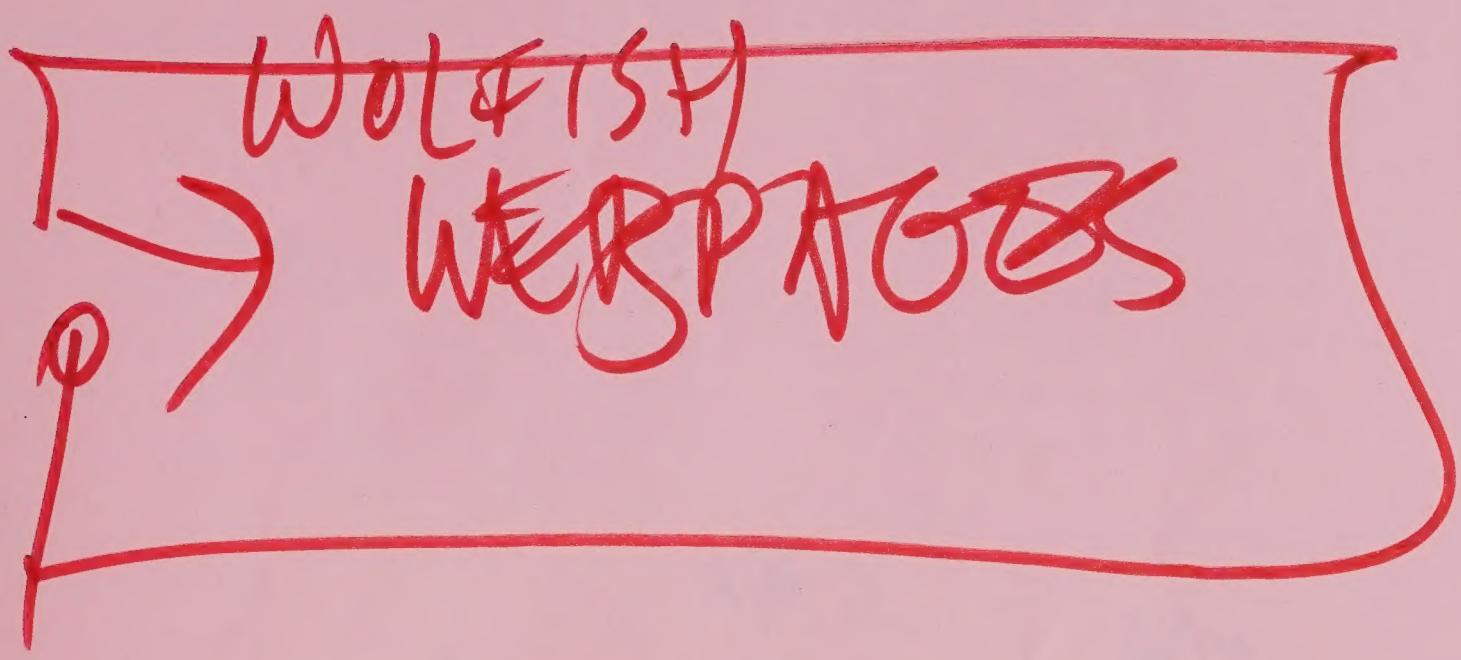
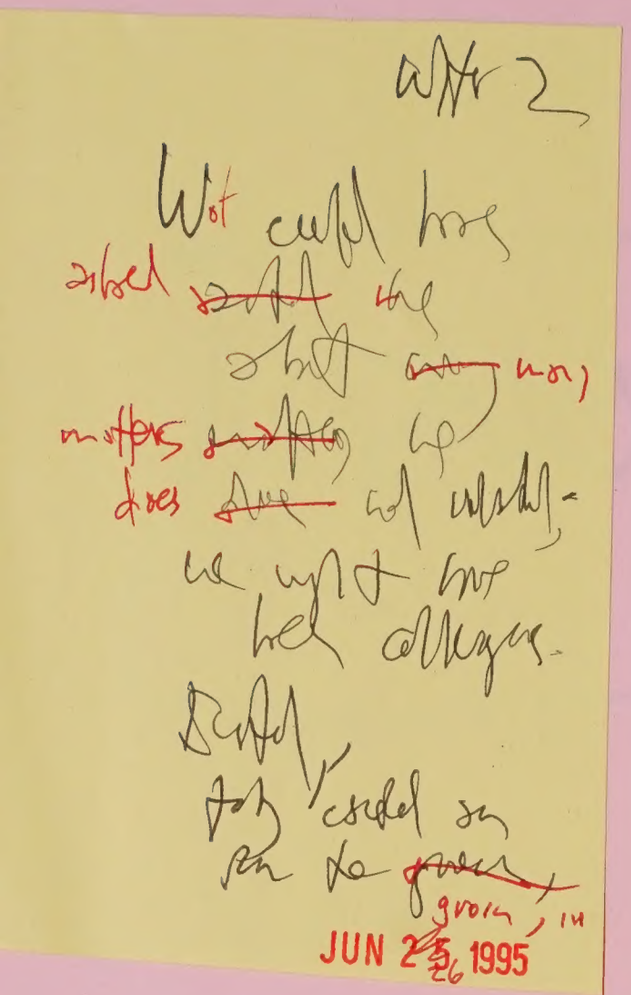


WOLF

There are hyper
points
in wolf's attack
which I might have
liked to discuss
with a civilized person.

JUN 26 1995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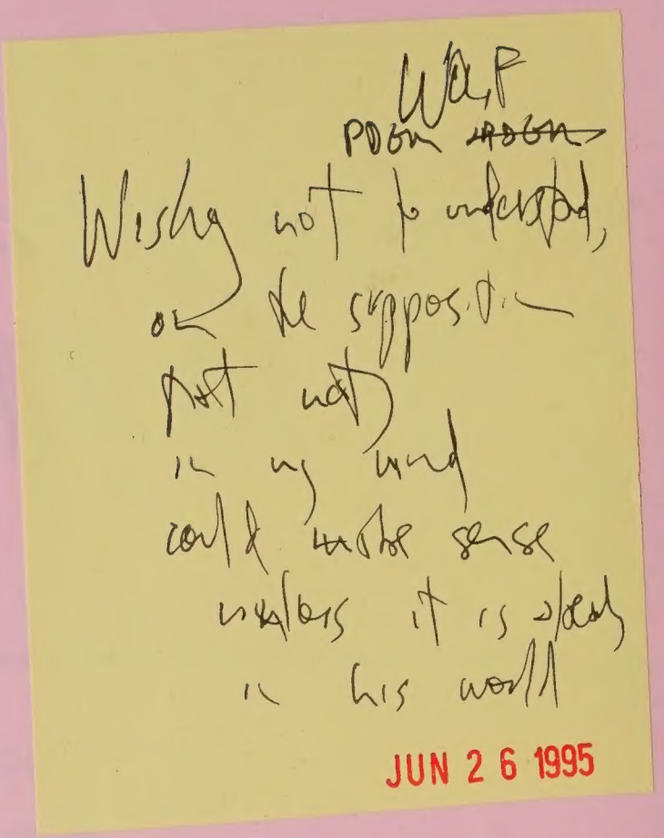
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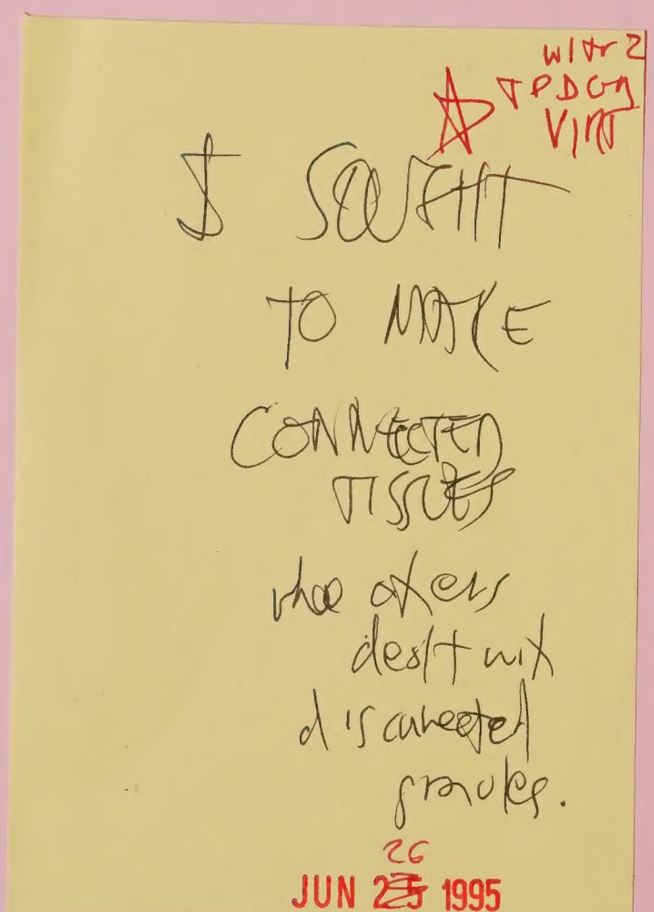
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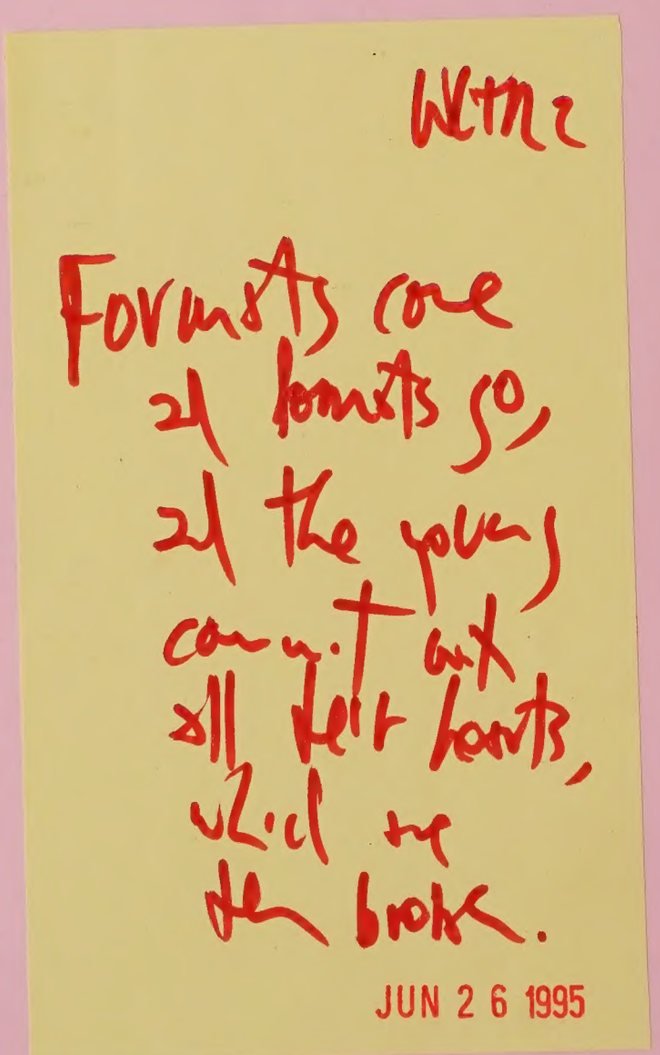
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W/tr ?

fin-de-siècle
fin-de-civ
~~soft~~ sensibility

—— w/ of it
San Francisco
is called the
"Sock of Market"
style. The impossible
of the MTV
question.

JUN ~~25~~ 26 1995

WOLF
tr

Wolf his
horned window,
every ~~elf~~
else
appears striped
or stripy.

JUN 2 6 1995

W/tr

~~Wolf~~ Wolf did not
ask
his
~~support~~ involvement
~~involved~~

from b up.

JUN ~~25~~ 26 1995

WOLF
alive.

Wolf is my ~~love~~.

WP | SSH | Wolf
"working policy"
Love me Wolf of
~~Wolf~~

GIVENS
~~GOOSTUCK~~

JUN 2 7 1995

Wolf

WOLFING Down

JUN 2 5 1995

I have never in my life felt such personal violation

JUN 2 7 1995

My sister has been the target of whitney's design

JUN 2 7 1995

For WOLFSBANE, 2d Version.

From Gary2.

After this defeat, Nelson moved further and further toward the fringe of the computer industry. In 1973, he landed a job at the University of Illinois in Chicago, where he instantly and typically discovered that he couldn't get along with his colleagues. With the prospect of winning respect from computer officialdom fading, Nelson moved in a new direction.

He took some time off from attempting to build his system. He also took some time off from incessantly talking about it. He began to reach beyond the range of his voice by appealing to a more general public.

His switch was well timed. When the inventor first got a hint of the territories beyond the mainframe horizon, his plan had been to arrive first and install a decent information network. But as the promoters of American

towns long ago discovered, it is not necessary to build anything to profit from the settlement of a new territory. You just have to survey the land and begin selling parcels to wishful pioneers. Nelson had failed to construct his information infrastructure, but he had designed a very nice picture of the future.

WOLF PUNS

"To wolf"
: 1 ~~bite~~
part. color slip
in Just Funny

& LEGEND of THE PUCK

JUN 2 4 1995

(WOLF)

WOLVERTON MTN

WOLFDUCK

WOLFENSTEIN

JUN 2 3 1995

And Now This

I had expected
~~that~~ a longer
turnaround
about now:
that my life as work
would begin
to be appreciated.
Instead, the trick
is to keep

JUN 1 8 1995

And Now This

The article made me
aware of how few
friends
I really have,
& how much less
they value my work
than I thought.
For this I thank
Louis, Jane, Kevin
& Greg. And my
key & door stick
magazine not in bed.

JUN 1 8 1995

~~For Web~~ WRS

And Now This:
On Being Surged.

JUN 1 8 1995

WOLF
PUNS

WOLF WHISTLE
SHEEP'S CLOTHING
FANGS
WHAT BIG TEETH
RED FANGS
WHAT BIG EARS
THE WOODCHOPPER

JUN 2 4 1995

Wolf

He didn't
let a
bit go un..
til I
He called to
it to approach
and it's leg
plant
He still's
legend
strong
But NO
he had it
All ripped out
it's with

JUN 2 3 1995

WOLF

Wolf has
taken
these written
out of
courteous discourse
all from blood.
No more can I
feel polite
about it.
No more Mr. Nice Guy.

JUN 2 4 1995

Any
Now
I,

I no longer feel like
the playful,
it so many savage eyes...

JUN 1 8 1995

Any
Now
I,

It's a invitation to die,
which I considered
but decline.

JUN 1 8 1995

WOLF

WOLF's
CARPET
BOMBING
of
life
in
art

JUN 23 1995

WOLF

DOG

JUN 24 1995

WOLF

GIDDY
HOBBYISTS
WAVING
FLAGS

JUN 23 1995

WOLF

OK, but I was settled,
you see.
I was crazy,
my ideas
ruthless.

JUN 24 1995

WOLF

The War
of those
committed to coveting
& those
committed against it

24
JUN [redacted] 1995

(2) WOLF

good journalist...

"new journalist"...

JUN 24 1995

Ted Nelson's Home Page (provisional)

NO PICTURE

After thirtyfive years or hard work and idealism in the computer field, work which has cost me every cent I ever earned or inherited, work in which I endured ridicule throughout the sixties and seventies for my "crazy" ideas of hypertext, interactive media and massive anarchic populist network publishing, I was ready for a little credit at about this time.

AND NOW THIS.

A scurrilous, bloodthirsty attack in WIRED magazine, one long sneer attacking and misrepresenting Project Xanadu*, my colleague and good friend Roger Gregory, and my entire life and career, with numerous errors of fact and fabrications of anecdote. I have replied to it elsewhere.**

In May of this year I had been planning to set up html pages on the Web, though with a sense of pain and irony, and indeed on the fifth of May? I was in the very act of sitting down to reply to a pleasant note from Jane Metcalfe, president of WIRED, when I received Gary Wolf's piece from him by email. I did not find out the title till several hours later.

I have been betrayed to this degree only a couple of times in my life.

I thought Louis Rossetto (publisher of WIRED) and his partner Jane Metcalfe were good friends. I stayed with them in Amsterdam for a week in 1970. They came to my houseboat several times, including kayaking and a few dinners. I imagined that they were my good friends, and was glad for their success with WIRED magazine.

WOLF
PACES

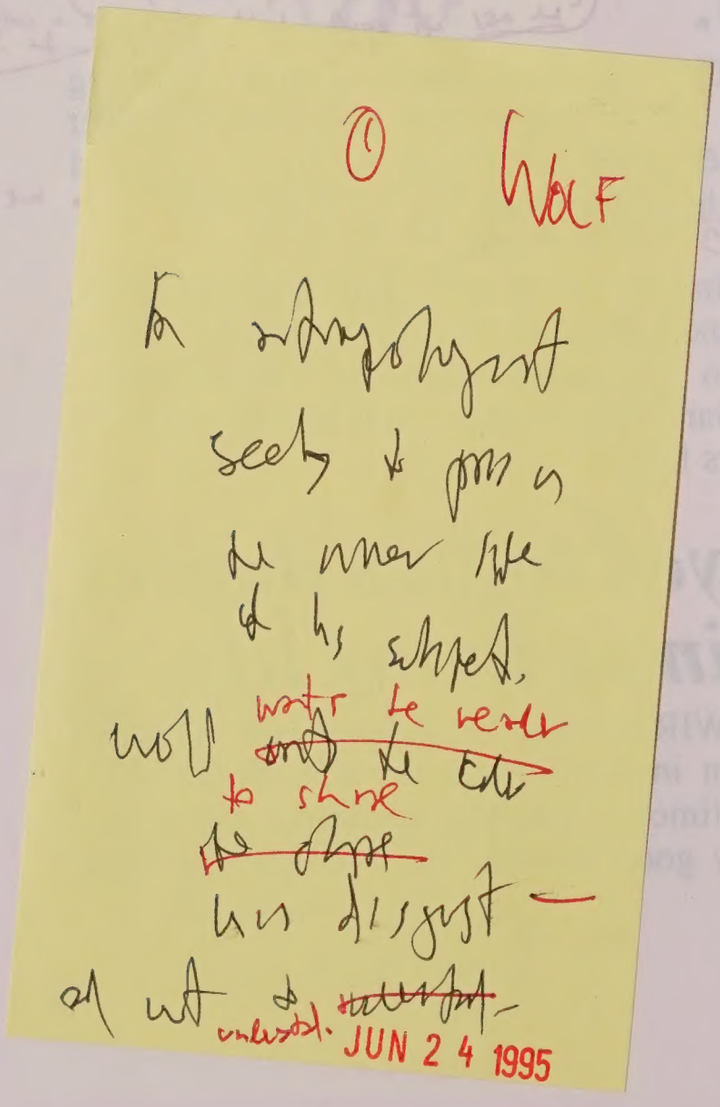
CHINNY CHIN CHIN

WOLF IT DOWN

WOLVERTON MOUNTAIN

* SHEEP'S CLOTHING

JUN 2 4 1995



Now I understand that their "friendship" was a setup for this attack, and I see what their success is worth, if every piece in their magazine is 35% false. Or was I singled out for such treatment? Either way, the hell with them.

Gary Wolf, with the love he expresses in "The Curse of Wired" for Respectability and Authority, would certainly not have taken such an initiative without considerable support and encouragement from his Official Superiors. So though Wolf's name is on it,

I presume that this was a valentine from Kevin Kelly.

I had sensed his animosity but was not prepared for a declaration of war; no, not a declaration of war indeed, but a Pearl Harbor attack, commencing massive hostilities with no prior announcement.

Well, this makes me sad, but I know what to do about enmity. There is a saying in the theater, "Be nice to the people you meet on the way up, because you're going to meet them all again on the way down."

Wolf works in hypertext. He ridicules all my ideas without comprehension,

Wolf could have been a colleague.

We could have discussed these things. Now, of course, he has shut off the possibility of dialogue (except in the courtroom) forever.

I am now considering whether to publish at all on the Web.

Are you some kind of a Wolf pack out there?

If my ideas and work are to be treated only with uncomprehending sarcasm, as

by Gary Wolf, I will simply pack them away to be published after my death.

Why should I put anything on the Web at all, if it is like trying to explain philosophy to a lynch mob?

homepage.d2
95.06.25

<HTML><HEAD><TITLE>Ted Nelson's home page
</TITLE>
<TITLE>homepageinprog</TITLE><BODY BGCOLOR=35TEXT=F0F0F0 LINK=FFD700
VLINK=5DDF70 ALINK=490D80><CENTER><A HREF="/index.html"><IMG
SRC="/escapes/images/escapes_ban.gif" WIDTH=468 HEIGHT=32 BORDER=0></A><P>
<H2><FONT SIZE=+3>N</FONT>ETSCAPE <FONT SIZE=+3>G</FONT>ALLERIA</H2>
</CENTER>The Galleria is our ever-growing list of customers who have built Net sites
using Netscape Server products. Each has a

<BODY BGCOLOR=666TEXT=aaaa>
<p><p>
homepage.d2 95.6.25<p>
This is http://xanadu.net/tn.homepage. Last changed XX June 1995.

<H2>Ted Nelson's Home Page</H2><P>

I have lived most of my life, from the age of eleven to the age of fifty, in great bitterness and anger. Only when I moved to California, and took the Stan Dale Workshops of the Human Awareness Institute, did some of this bitterness lift from my life.<p>

I was about to put up some Web pages, finally, despite the ironies and pain of the matter, and was planning to make them humorous and interesting.<p>

I am fifty-eight years old and have worked hard in the computer field for thirtyfive years. I thought that about now, people would start rediscovering my work and begin to recognize what they had missed before, the solutions to the problems they are finally ready to understand. I expected some vindication for all that work.<p>

And now this. A scurrilous article in WIRED magazine which falsely and libelously misrepresents, insults, degrades and ridicules my colleagues, my career and the work that I have sacrificed everything for. Yes, I am calling Gary Wolf a Liar.<p>

Workshops hell. It is as though I had never moved to California. I no longer feel like putting up Web pages, or answering email, or participating further in public conversation. The bitterness is on me again very heavily. It is all I can do to write these words.<p>

<TITLE>wolfsbane</TITLE><BODY BGCOLOR=35TEXT=F0F0F0 LINK=FFD700 VLINK=5DDF70
ALINK=490D80><CENTER><A HREF="/index.html"><IMG
SRC="/escapes/images/escapes_ban.gif" WIDTH=468 HEIGHT=32 BORDER=0></A><P>
<H2><FONT SIZE=+3>N</FONT>ETSCAPE <FONT SIZE=+3>G</FONT>ALLERIA</H2>
</CENTER>The Galleria is our ever-growing list of customers who have built Net sites

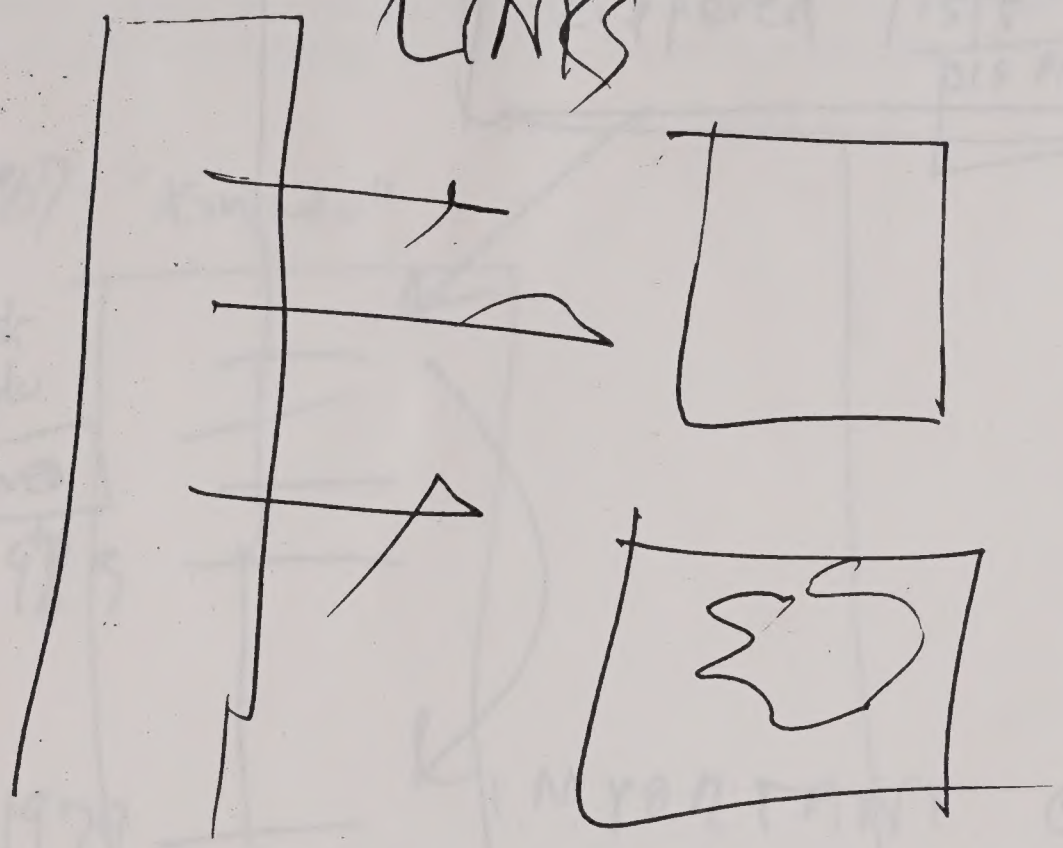
TW 1 JAN 2 6 1996 10

HYPERTEXT, HYPERMEDIA (popular ideas) MAC

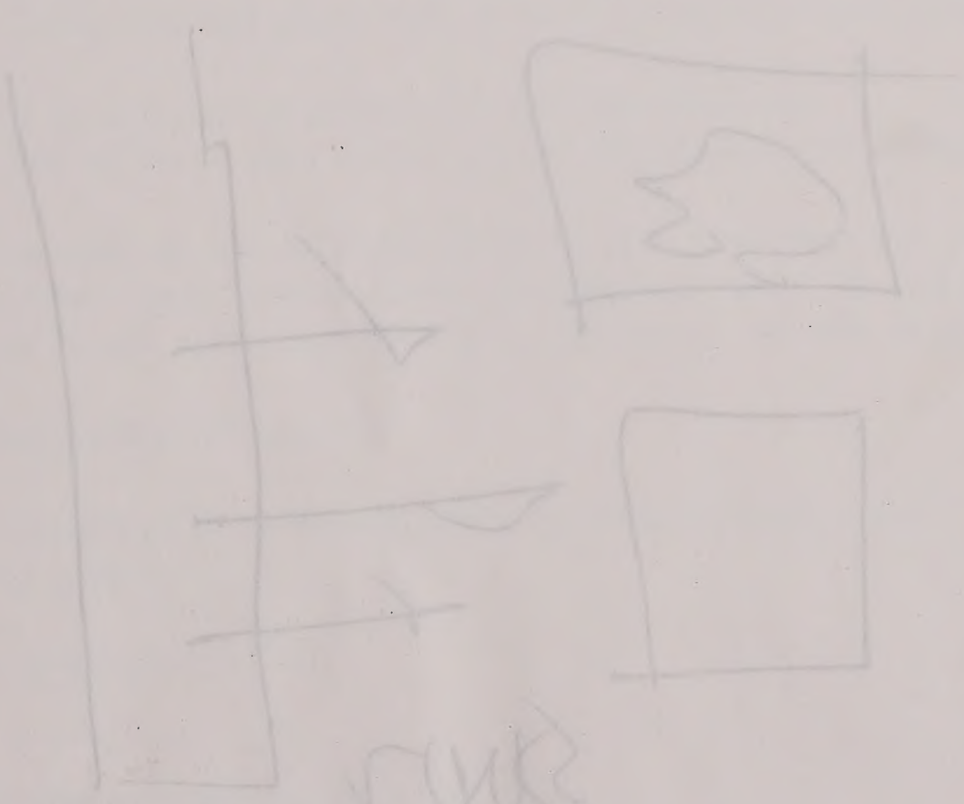
Document

TW

LINKS



TW



XUTW JAN 2 6 1996 17

1960 Creative Contours 38 2

1965 Exact design

MTG TW

"Zippered lists" BIG PIECES

1967 "Xanadu"

Autodesk Xanadu

FINE GRAINED

1983

1979

IMPORTANT GROUP Gregory, Miller...

VERY SPECIAL DESIGN Autodesk $5 mill.

1992

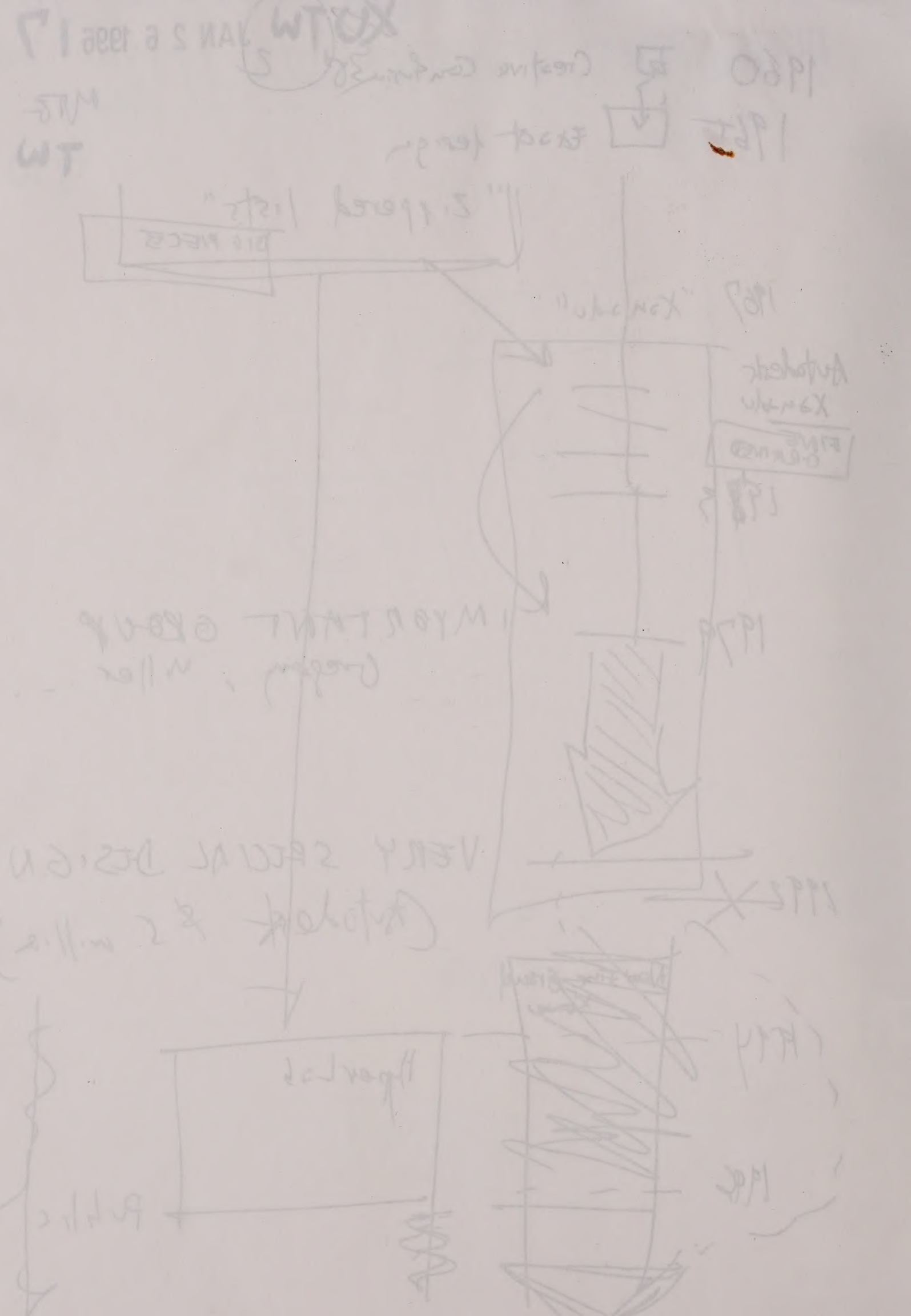
Most Fine Grained Cows

1994

Hyperlab

1996

Public



MY ATTITUDE TODAY Most people are astonished by the personal computer revolution, the computer media revolution, and Internet publishing. My attitude is completely the opposite: I am astonished that they took so long, and annoyed that they have been done so badly. Because my predictions and understanding were so uncannily correct, I believe I can still see very clearly the directions in which things should go. --xu96.plans.intro.d5, 95.12